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IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend claims 1, 14, 25, 27, 39, 44, 45, 67 and 79. Kindly delete claim 38 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter contained therein. The changes to claims 14, 25 (in part), 27 and 44 were made to correct stylistic errors and are, therefore, not related to patentability.

The following is a complete listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A frame selection system adapted to:
generate at least one enhanced frame comprising at least one error burst representation;
generate at least one enhanced frame copy comprising at least one error burst representation;
combine an acceptable portion of the enhanced frame with an acceptable portion of the enhanced frame copy based on the error burst representations to form a combined frame of a higher quality than the enhanced frame at least during a soft-handoff.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 further adapted to generate a primary enhanced frame.
4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 further adapted to generate a parallel enhanced frame.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 further adapted to store each of the error burst representations within a respective frame.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 6 further adapted to store each of the error burst representations within a respective frame quality indicator field.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein each of the error burst representations comprises an error-start indicator and an error-length indicator.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, wherein each of the error-start indicators and the error-length indicators comprise binary code.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the system comprises a wireless communications base station.

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the error burst representations are associated with a field or section of a respective frame.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 further adapted to evaluate a frame quality of the enhanced frame.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 further adapted to analyze at least one error burst representation within the enhanced frame.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 further comprising ~~an FSU~~ a frame selection unit.

15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 further adapted to:
accept the enhanced frame if a frame quality of the enhanced frame is above a threshold; and

discard the enhanced frame and request a replacement copy of the enhanced frame if the frame quality of the enhanced frame is below the threshold.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the threshold is associated with a reference error burst length.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the threshold comprises an adjustable threshold associated with one of a plurality of reference error burst lengths and reference error burst locations.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12 further adapted to evaluate the frame quality of the enhanced frame based on a quality of a field or section of the enhanced frame.

19. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the device is further adapted to generate a combined frame.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 further adapted to combine an acceptable portion of an enhanced primary frame with an acceptable portion of an enhanced parallel frame.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 further adapted to combine an acceptable portion from a field or section of the enhanced frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of the enhanced frame copy.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 further adapted to combine an acceptable portion from a field or section of an enhanced primary frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of an enhanced parallel frame.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A device adapted to analyze at least one error burst representation within an enhanced frame;

analyze at least one error burst representation within an enhanced frame;

analyze at least one error burst representation within an enhanced frame copy;

combine an acceptable portion of the enhanced frame ~~within~~ with an acceptable portion of the enhanced frame copy based on the respective error

burst representations to form a combined frame of higher quality than the enhanced frame at least during a soft-handoff.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 25, wherein the device comprises ~~an FSU~~ a frame selection unit.

28. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 25, further adapted to:
accept the enhanced frame if a frame quality of the enhanced frame is above a threshold; and

discard the enhanced frame and request a replacement copy of the enhanced frame if the frame quality of the enhanced frame is below the threshold.

29. (Original) The device of claim 28, wherein the threshold is associated with a reference error burst length.

30. (Original) The device of claim 28, wherein the threshold comprises an adjustable threshold associated with one of a plurality of reference error burst lengths and reference error burst locations.

31. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 25, further adapted to evaluate a frame quality of the enhanced frame based on a quality of a field or section of the enhanced frame.

32. (Original) The device of claim 25, further adapted to generate a combined frame.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 25 further adapted to combine an acceptable portion of an enhanced primary frame with an acceptable portion of an enhanced parallel frame.

35. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 25 further adapted to combine an acceptable portion from a field or section of the enhanced frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of the enhanced frame copy.

36. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 25 further adapted to combine an acceptable portion from a field or section of an enhanced primary frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of an enhanced parallel frame.

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) A device adapted to combine an acceptable portion of an enhanced frame comprising at least one error burst representation that includes an error start indicator and error length indicator with an acceptable portion of an enhanced frame copy based on an error burst

representation within each frame to form a combined frame of a higher quality than the enhanced frame at least during a soft-handoff.

40. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 39 further adapted to combine an acceptable portion of an enhanced primary frame with an acceptable portion of an enhanced parallel frame.

41. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 39 further adapted to combine an acceptable portion from a field or section of the enhanced frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of the enhanced frame copy.

42. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 39 further adapted to combine an acceptable portion from a field or section of an enhanced primary frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of an enhanced parallel frame.

43. (Previously Presented) The device as in claim 39 further adapted to:

evaluate a frame quality of the enhanced frame based on a quality of a field or section of the enhanced frame; and

evaluate a frame quality of the enhanced frame copy based on a quality of a field or section of the enhanced frame copy.

44. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 43, wherein the device comprises ~~an FSU~~ a frame selection unit.

45. (Currently Amended) A frame selection method comprising:
generating at least one enhanced frame comprising at least one error burst representation;
generating at least one enhanced frame copy comprising at least one error burst representation;
combining an acceptable portion of the enhanced frame with an acceptable portion of the enhanced frame copy based on the error burst representations to form a combined frame of a higher quality than the enhanced frame at least during a soft-handoff.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Original) The method of claim 45, further comprising generating an enhanced primary frame.

48. (Original) The method of claim 45, further comprising generating an enhanced parallel frame.

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising storing each of the error burst representations within a respective frame.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, further comprising storing each of the error burst representations within a respective frame quality indicator field.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein each of the error burst representations comprises an error-start indicator and an error-length indicator.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein each of the error-start indicators and the error-length indicators comprise binary code.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein the error burst representations are associated with a particular field or section of a respective frame.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising evaluating a frame quality of the enhanced frame.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, further comprising analyzing the at least one error burst representation within the enhanced frame.

57. (Original) The method of claim 55, further comprising:
accepting the enhanced frame if the frame quality of the enhanced frame is above a threshold; and

discarding the enhanced frame and requesting a replacement copy of the enhanced frame if the frame quality of the enhanced frame is below the threshold.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57, wherein the threshold is associated with a reference error burst length.

59. (Original) The method of claim 57, wherein the threshold comprises an adjustable threshold associated with one of a plurality of reference error burst lengths and reference error burst locations.

60. (Original) The method of claim 55, further comprising evaluating the frame quality of the enhanced frame based on a quality of a field or section of the enhanced frame.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising generating a combined frame.

62. (Cancelled)

63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising an acceptable portion of an enhanced primary frame with an acceptable portion of an enhanced parallel frame.

64. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising combining an acceptable portion from a field or section of the enhanced frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of the enhanced frame copy.

65. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising combining an acceptable portion from a field or section of an enhanced primary

frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of an enhanced parallel frame.

66. (Cancelled)

67. (Currently Amended) A frame selection method comprising:
analyzing at least one error burst representation within an enhanced frame;

analyzing at least one error burst representation within an enhanced frame copy;

combining an acceptable portion of the enhanced frame with an acceptable portion of the enhanced frame copy based on the error burst representations to form a combined frame of a higher quality than the enhanced frames at least during a soft-handoff.

68. (Cancelled)

69. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, further comprising:

accepting the enhanced frame if a frame quality of the enhanced frame is above a threshold; and

discarding the enhanced frame and requesting a replacement copy of the enhanced frame if the frame quality of the enhanced frame is below the threshold.

70. (Original) The method of claim 69, wherein the threshold is associated with a reference error burst length.

71. (Original) The method of claim 69, wherein the threshold comprises an adjustable threshold associated with one of a plurality of reference error burst lengths and reference error burst locations.

72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67, further comprising evaluating a frame quality of the enhanced frame based on a quality of a field or section of the enhanced frame.

73. (Original) The method of claim 67, further comprising generating a combined frame.

74. (Cancelled)

75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67 further comprising combining an acceptable portion of an enhanced primary frame with an acceptable portion of an enhanced parallel frame.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67 further comprising combining an acceptable portion from a field or section of the enhanced frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of the enhanced frame copy.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 67 further comprising combining an acceptable portion from a field or section of an enhanced primary

frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of an enhanced parallel frame.

78. (Cancelled)

79. (Currently Amended) A method comprising combining an acceptable portion of an enhanced frame comprising at least one error burst representation that includes an error start indicator and an error length indicator with an acceptable portion of an enhanced frame copy based on an error burst representation within each frame to form a combined frame of a higher quality than the enhanced frame at least during a soft-handoff.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 further comprising combining an acceptable portion of an enhanced primary frame with an acceptable portion of an enhanced parallel frame.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 further comprising combining an acceptable portion from a field or section of the enhanced frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of the enhanced frame copy.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 further comprising combining an acceptable portion from a field or section of an enhanced primary frame and an acceptable portion from a same field or section of an enhanced parallel frame.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 79 further comprising:

evaluating a frame quality of the enhanced frame based on a quality of a field or section of the enhanced frame; and

evaluating a frame quality of the enhanced frame copy based on a quality of a field or section of the enhanced frame copy.